GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:187
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2015
Salt Pan Land in Mumbai
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5400 acres of salt pan land in Mumbai is in possession of the Government and given on lease for salt cultivation and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether 1800 acres of land out of this is developable and comes under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints from people''s representatives that some private builders have entered into illegal MoU/agreement and started process of building proposals pass;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for private builders entering into MoU for use of this Government land for commercial real estate purpose; and

(e) the action being contemplated by the Government against these builders?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): An area of 5378 acres of land in Greater Mumbai is under orders of transfer to Ministry of Urban Development. It is covered under 31 Salt Works (6 leases, 24 licensed lands) in 13 Revenue Villages and one under erstwhile Bombay Salt and Chemicals Works. The details of 5378 acres of Salt Pan Land in Mumbai is at Annexure.

(b): As per the report of Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) prepared in 2010, an area of 1206 Hectares comes under CRZ. Out of this, 867 Hectares (2141 Acres) falls in the village of Kanjur, Bhandup, Mulund and Nahur of Greater Mumbai. 204 Hectare (503.88 acres) is developable land in the said villages.

(c) & (d): The Government has received complaint from Dr. Kirit Somaiya, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) recently about some private builders allegedly entered into MoU / Registered agreement with the lessees. The above MoU/Registered Agreement to develop the salt pan lands have been filed before the Hon'ble City Civil Court in Notice of Motion No. 321 of 2010 in Suit No. 6256 of 2005 (Bombay High Court Suit No. 1173 of 2005) praying for restraining the Garodias i.e. Plaintiffs from dealing with and disposing of Suit lands. Shri Gordhandas S. Garodia and Shri Mahesh Kumar Gordhandas Garodia obtained lease hold rights by virtue of a consent Decree in Suit No. 1799 of 1980. Lease right holders of Arthur Salt Works entered in to Registered Consent Deed/Registered Agreement for development of land under the said salt works with M/s Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Ltd. and executed Declaration No. 3/7478/2009 and Consent Deed for Government Project bearing No. 2/1526/2009.

(e): On receipt of two documents viz. (1) Registered Declaration No.3/7478/2009, (2) Registered Consent Deed, Salt Department filed Additional Affidavit and Supplementary Affidavit in Notice of Motion No. 321 of 2010 in Suit No. 6256 of 2005 in Bombay City Civil Court (Bombay High Court Suit No. 1173 of 2005), bringing the deal between the parties to the knowledge of the Hon'ble Court and praying for restraining the Plaintiffs from dealing with and disposing of Suit lands. The Suit No. 1173 of 2005 was filed by the Plaintiffs, Gordhandas S.Garodia in Bombay High Court against termination of lease by an order dated 02-11-2004 passed by the Salt Department which was subsequently transferred to City Civil Court and is given new number Suit No. 6256 of 2005. The said matter at present is subjudice. Further Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue), Government of Maharashtra has been requested to cancel the changes made in the Revenue records pursuant to Government of Maharashtra's order dated 13-08-2008 and also to instruct the Registrar not to register any deed in respect of the said land as they belong to the Govt. of India. It is also proposed that on expiry of leases it should not be renewed and even in any future developmental activities, these entities may be kept out.
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